

**South Carolina
Citizens Guide to
Terrorism**



What is Terrorism?

"Terrorism includes the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives."



The guide was compiled and produced by the South Carolina Emergency Management Division as a public service and in coordination with the Military Order of World Wars. This guide has been reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and should be used as a general preparedness guide. Specific response information should be obtained from local and state emergency response organizations during the emergency by tuning into the Emergency Alert System.

Where do Terrorists Strike?

1972	U.S., Midwest water supplies, possible planned typhoid bacteria attack
1984	Oregon, restaurant salad bars, Salmonella bacteria (food poisoning)
1993	New York City, World Trade Center, vehicle bomb
1993	Canada, U.S. border, Ricin (poison) smuggling
1995	Minnesota, possible Ricin attack plan
1995	Moscow, Cesium (radioactive material) and explosives found
1995	Tokyo, subway, Sarin gas (a nerve agent) attack
1995	Oklahoma City, Murrah Federal Building, vehicle bomb
1996	Germany, smuggling of 6.1 pounds of uranium (radioactive material)



*U.S.S. Cole after the
2000 attack.*

www.chinfo.navy.mil



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- 1996 Saudi Arabia, Khobar Towers, vehicle bomb
- 1997 Kazakhstan, 11 pounds of uranium stolen
- 1998 Africa, U.S. embassies, vehicle bomb
- 2000 Yemen, U.S.S. Cole, boat bomb
- 2001 Lebanon, Islamic terrorist groups form alliance
- 2001 Iran, the 2001 International Conference of Terrorists
- 2001 September 11, Pentagon and World Trade Center
- 2001 Anthrax letters



www.fema.gov

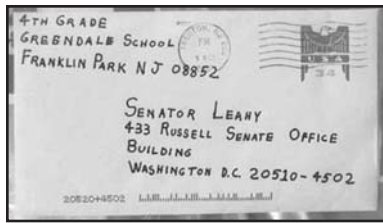


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What Could A Terrorist Use?

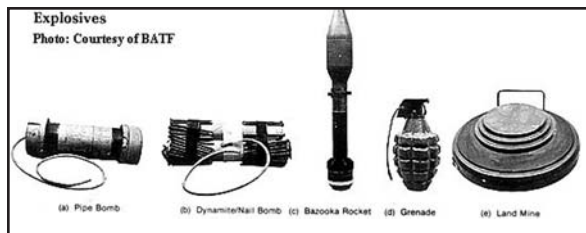


Terrorists can use a variety of weapons, both common and uncommon; but of particular concern are those that affect the mass population.

💣 **Agents of Mass Effect** (commonly known as Weapons of Mass Destruction):

High-powered explosives, chemicals, radioactive material, nuclear weapons, biological, and other agents can be used on mass populations.

💣 **High-powered Explosive Agents:** include extremely powerful explosives and other explosive agents (large amounts of common explosives, fuels, or chemicals that can explode that usually require planes, trucks, railroad cars, or other means of transportation).

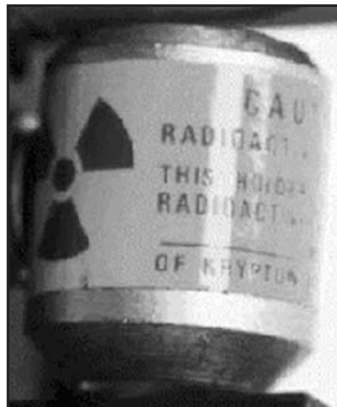


💣 **Chemical Agents:** include both long-lasting and short-lived agents. Long-lasting agents remain in the affected area for hours, days, or weeks as vapors, liquids, or dust. Short-lived agents are usually vapors that remain a danger in the affected area for a shorter period of time; minutes to hours.



☛ **Biological Agents:** include organisms and toxins. Organisms are living, reproducing, disease-producing bacteria and viruses. Toxins are poisons, which although they are non-living, are derived from living organisms.

☛ **Radioactive Material & Nuclear Weapons:** include (1) a radiological dispersion device, designed to spread radioactive material by a explosion or other means (2) an attack on fixed nuclear facility (nuclear power plants, fuel processing facilities, etc.), or radioactive material in transit, or (3) a malfunctioning nuclear weapon that is detonated with no nuclear explosion (4) nuclear weapons (bomb) are devices designed and constructed to cause a nuclear explosion causing catastrophic damage to people, buildings, and the environment. Special highly guarded materials and expertise are required to construct and detonate a nuclear weapon.



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What Could Happen During a Terrorist Incident?

- 💣 Significant explosions and/or fire
- 💣 Extensive damage to buildings and infrastructure
- 💣 Toxic clouds of dust, debris, liquids, and vapors
- 💣 Numerous dead animals, fish, or birds
- 💣 Panic by the general population
- 💣 Multiple victims, possibly contaminated
- 💣 Health care facilities maybe overwhelmed
- 💣 Evacuation of large areas (parts of large cities, entire cities or counties)
- 💣 Federal law enforcement and military involvement
- 💣 Road blocks, searches of cars and individuals, restricted movement of people
- 💣 Secondary problems far away from the initial area (panic, increased security, secondary health effects from agent transported by cars, people, wind, water, and/or animals)
- 💣 Public gathering places closed (schools, public transportation, government buildings, churches, stores, special and sporting events, etc)
- 💣 Restoration to normal may take weeks, months, or even years

How do I Prepare?

Since a terrorist can use a variety of weapons and tactics, it is difficult to predict the correct specific actions to take until the terrorist and weapon are known. Once emergency authorities have this information, specific preparedness and response actions will be communicated to the public based on current available knowledge. Therefore, the public should Prepare for the Unexpected. The following general preparedness information was obtained from the American Red Cross Web site and further information can be obtained at the web address:

<http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/keepsafe/unexpected.html>

1. Create an emergency communications plan.

Choose an out-of-town contact your family or household will call or e-mail to check on each other should a disaster occur. Your selected contact should live far enough away that they would be unlikely to be directly affected by the same event, and they should know they are the chosen contact. Make sure every household member has that contact's, and each other's, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers (home, work, pager and cell). Leave these contact numbers at your children's schools, if you have children, and at your workplace. Your family should know that if telephones are not working, they need to be patient and try again later or try e-mail. Many people flood the telephone lines when emergencies happen but e-mail can sometimes get through when calls don't.

2. Establish a meeting place.

Having a predetermined meeting place away from your home will save time and minimize confusion should your home be affected or the area evacuated. You may even want to make arrangements to stay with a family member or friend in case of an emergency. Be sure to include any pets in these plans, since pets are not permitted in shelters and some hotels will not accept them.

3. Assemble a disaster supplies kit.

If you need to evacuate your home or are asked to "shelter in place," having some essential supplies on hand will make you and your family more comfortable. Prepare a disaster supplies kit in an easy-to-carry container such as a duffel bag or small plastic trash can. Include "special needs" items for any member of your household (infant formula or items for people with disabilities or older people), first aid supplies (including prescription medications), a change of clothing for each household member, a sleeping bag or bedroll for each, a battery powered radio or television and extra batteries, food, bottled water and tools. It is also a good idea to include some cash and copies of important family documents (birth certificates, passports and licenses) in your kit. Copies of essential documents-like powers of attorney, birth and marriage certificates, insurance policies, life insurance beneficiary designations and a copy of your will-should also be kept in a safe location outside your home. A safe deposit box or the home of a friend or family member who lives out of town is a good choice.

For more complete instructions, ask your local Red Cross chapter for the brochure titled Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit.

4. Check on the school emergency plan of any school-age children you may have.

You need to know if they will they keep children at school until a parent or designated adult can pick them up or send them home on their own. Be sure that the school has updated information about how to reach parents and responsible caregivers to arrange for pickup. And, ask what type of authorization the school may require to release a child to someone you designate, if you are not able to pick up your child. During times of emergency the school telephones may be overwhelmed with calls.

For more information on putting together a disaster plan, request a copy of the brochure titled Your Family Disaster Plan from your local American Red Cross chapter.

How do I Prevent a Terrorist Incident?

1. Be aware your surroundings. Your home and places where you routinely go are very familiar to you, especially during normal operating times. Therefore you may be the best eyes and ears of law enforcement.
2. Use common sense. Are you, or is your location, a potential terrorist target? It is highly unlikely that a terrorist will accomplish social or political objectives by exploding a bomb, sending a contaminated letter, or committing any other attack on a private individual or small business. Remember: the terrorist is trying to coerce the public.
3. If you notice something suspicious report it to employees, security personnel, frequent visitors, or others who are also familiar with the area and know what happens there day-to-day to verify that the situation is suspicious.
4. When faced with a suspicious circumstance notify local law enforcement or call 911 and follow the advice of emergency personnel.



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How do I Recognize a Terrorist Incident ?

Each particular weapon and terrorist attack has its own characteristics and consequences. There are general warning signs, or indicators of terrorist incidents and these usually include more than one of the following:

- 💣 Suspicious packages and letters
- 💣 A credible threat issued by law enforcement
- 💣 Explosions/fire on a large scale
- 💣 Explosions that disperse or dispense liquids, mists, vapors, or gas
- 💣 Explosions that seem to only destroy a package or bomb device
- 💣 Unscheduled and unusual spreading of sprays or mists, and the abandoning of those devices
- 💣 Low-lying clouds/fog unrelated to weather
- 💣 Numerous dead animals, fish, or birds
- 💣 Lack or unusual abundance of insect life
- 💣 Multiple victims without obvious physical injury
- 💣 Common location of injured people and common sickness
- 💣 Civilian panic in potential high-profile areas
- 💣 Multiple locations affected at the same time
- 💣 Unusual illness for region/area

How do I Respond?

CHECK FOR MY PERSONAL SAFETY

- ❖ Leave the area immediately if it is not safe from further attacks. Do this by limiting your time in the area, increasing your distance from the area, and placing shielding (a physical barrier) between the area and yourself if possible.

- ❖ Leave all terrorist weapons and pieces of those weapons alone as they may be needed as evidence to catch the terrorist or be very dangerous.

- ❖ If there is evidence of a biological, chemical, or radiological agent consider that all people and property in the attack area may have been contaminated and avoid contact with the potential agent if possible (including vapors, pools of liquid, buildings, and persons or cars leaving the scene). If you think that the air is contaminated, protect your breathing by breathing through a scarf, handkerchief or other clothing and protect your skin by putting on clean clothing that covers as much exposed skin as possible.

- ❖ If you suspect that you have been exposed to, or you are feeling sick from, a biological, chemical, or radiological agent, remove your outer clothing once you are out of the immediate area of the attack if possible and remember where you left it, as it may affect someone else. Wash with soap and water as soon as possible.

- ❖ If you have been near the incident and feel fine, you may still be carrying the agent on your person. Look for signs of sickness in yourself and others. If you see signs remember them.

- ❖ Your observations may help first responders. Be alert for other weapons or attacks. Avoid sites similar to the one attacked.

CALL FOR HELP

❖ Call from a safe location and avoid those areas and places that have indicators of terrorist activity or are similar to the original target.

❖ Call 911 or emergency action numbers in your locality. The first citizens to call these numbers play a key role in mobilizing the proper emergency response to a terrorist incident. The information that you may be asked to provide is:

- ☛ Number you are calling from?
- ☛ Where are you?
- ☛ What happened?
- ☛ How many people are affected and where are they going?
- ☛ What are the wind conditions around the incident?
- ☛ What are the signs and symptoms of illness?
- ☛ Is there any sign of criminal intent?
- ☛ Is there high ground near the affected area?
- ☛ Is there a water source near the affected area?
- ☛ If emergency personnel have not arrived, can you direct people to safety?

CARE FOR OTHERS

❖ Once you have protected yourself and called authorities, remember a terrorist attack is a crime scene and requires specialized resources/experts to identify and handle it. **Do not reenter the area.** When caring for victims prior to the arrival of emergency services:

- ❖ Try to remember where people became ill and stay away from that location. This information will also help emergency first responders define the area of safety.
- ❖ Advise people\vehicles not to proceed into the area and avoid all exposed persons, buildings, food and water if possible.
- ❖ If you must treat victims, treat only life-threatening injuries then remove yourself from the patient and note the location of the victim.
- ❖ If you treat a victim contaminated with a biological, chemical, or radiological agent, treat these victims by limiting personal contact by using some protective wrapping (cloth, plastic, etc) over your hands and covering your mouth and nose with a scarf, handkerchief, or other clothing to protect your breathing. Remove the victim's outer clothing to decrease your and the victim's exposure to the agent on the clothing. Try to cover victims with clean materials.
- ❖ If you have to transport the victim, do not transport the clothing. Try to determine the patient's identity, and if possible, carry the persons ID if it is not contaminated. Contaminated clothing and cleaning materials should be left at the scene. Protective plastic sheeting or other materials should be placed between the victim and the car seat to minimize potential contamination.
- ❖ If possible, try to notify the medical facility and 911 before you transport a victim for treatment. After arrival do not take the patient inside the facility immediately. You should notify the hospital personnel of the situation. Remember your victim could contaminate the hospital and make it unusable for other patients.
- ❖ The vehicle should be cleaned before other victims can be transported. Tune into local radio/TV emergency alert stations for advisories about the need for citizens to transport victims.

Personal Response Card

The following Personal Response Card is offered as general guidance for initial procedures where no specific information is available. Specific instructions from local emergency services should be followed exactly when available.

YOU THINK A TERRORIST ATTACK HAPPENED IN YOUR AREA:

CHECK FOR YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY

- ☐ Stay calm & confirm if possible (people, media, indicators)
- ☐ Protect your breathing & skin if indicators of a biological, chemical, or radiological agent are present
- ☐ Close building or vehicle windows, doors, & vents
- ☐ Turn off heating & air conditioning
- ☐ Gather your disaster kit
- ☐ Leave the affected area & avoid potential targets
- ☐ Place time, distance, & shielding between you and the area
- ☐ Avoid anything with agent on it-vapor, liquid, people, and property
- ☐ Go to a safe area uphill & upwind or a secure facility if outside, and an interior room without windows if in a building if possible
- ☐ Monitor yourself for heat & cold, & agent exposure if appropriate

CALL FOR HELP

- ☐ Call from a safe location
- ☐ Alert others & emergency services through normal procedures
- ☐ Report major casualty, damage, and indicator information
- ☐ Follow advice from Emergency Services
- ☐ Monitor Emergency Alert Stations on TV & radio

CARE FOR OTHERS

- ☐ If you must help victims, treat life-threatening injuries first
- ☐ Protect your breathing and skin if appropriate
- ☐ If you transport contaminated victims, clean them first
- ☐ Notify emergency services before transporting if you can
- ☐ Notify hospital personnel before taking the victim inside
- ☐ Implement your family/group emergency plan



How will My Emergency Services Respond?

- ❖ They must pause and determine if it is safe to enter the area, and if necessary, isolate the area, deny entry, control evacuation of victims, and provide a response information update to other emergency services and the public in the affected area.
- ❖ They may request appropriate specialized resources such as bomb squads, HAZMAT teams, medical teams, or SWAT teams. If an agent of mass effect is involved, these teams may be necessary before anyone can enter the area.
- ❖ They will try to identify the source of the attack and the affected area. They may immediately isolate the area 1,500 feet (approximately 5 football fields) in all directions and mark zones of operation (Hot Zone-immediately affected area, Warm Zone-possibly affected but safe to operate in protective covering, Cold Zone-safe for emergency responders to operate in normal clothing, and Crime Scene Zone-secured for law enforcement reasons).
- ❖ They may establish a safe area within the Warm Zone for cleaning contaminated victims.
- ❖ They may provide emergency cleaning for these victims using water or other cleaning solutions, such as mild diluted Clorox, soap, or others depending on what the agent is.
- ❖ They may initiate protective actions like evacuation or shelter-in-place for the community.

If asked to evacuate and you should:

- ❖ Heed the advice immediately.

- ❖ Remain tuned to emergency alert radio or television and follow the broadcast instructions.
- ❖ Travel the designated routes as specified by local authorities.
- ❖ If within the zones above, and it is safe to do so, notify your emergency contacts to advise them of your route, names and identities of people traveling with you, and you estimated time of arrival.
- ❖ Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants and sturdy shoes so you can be protected as much as possible.
- ❖ Carry your disaster supplies kit, some decontamination supplies (rubber gloves, bleach, brushes, soap, towels, water), an extra change of clothing, and secure your personal effects (wallets, billfolds, personal identification and important papers, critical medicines, keys, valuables) in sealable plastic bags if possible.
- ❖ Secure your home, property, and weapons.
- ❖ Tie a cloth or leave a note on the mailbox\front door of the residence to signify that the residence has been evacuated and place pertinent information on a piece of paper (license plate of vehicle you will be traveling in, the names of persons in the vehicle and destination, estimated time of arrival). Follow specific instructions from emergency officials if different.

If Asked to Shelter-in-Place:

- ❖ Move all family members and pets inside and remain inside.
- ❖ Secure all windows and exterior doors.
- ❖ Turn off or close all fans, heating and air conditioning systems, and duct work that pulls air in from the outside. In hot or cold weather take precautions, and observe persons for heat or cold related illness.

- ❖ Close the fireplace damper and extinguish all open flames and pilot lights.
- ❖ Get your disaster supplies kit, and make sure the radio is working and tuned to the Emergency Alert System.
- ❖ Go to an above ground level interior room without windows if available or as directed by local officials. In the case of a chemical threat, an above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air and may seep into basements even if the windows are closed.
- ❖ Collect some decontamination supplies (rubber gloves, bleach, brushes, soap, and water)
- ❖ Eat only packaged (sealed) food. Food cannot be decontaminated.
- ❖ Drink only yesterday's water or sealed fluids if possible.
- ❖ Anyone entering the house from a contaminated area should take off outer clothing and wash with soap and water, preferably outside or in a designated exterior room.
- ❖ Using duct tape, seal all cracks around the door and any vents into the room. Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Local officials may call for evacuation in specific areas at greatest risk in your community.
- ❖ If you must go outside, protect your breathing and skin if the area is contaminated.

South Carolina Emergency Alert System Stations

The following radio and television stations are key participants in the Emergency Alert System and the South Carolina Educational Radio Network. They broadcast emergency information throughout the state, as do numerous other radio and television stations.

Charleston

WNKT 107.5 FM

WEZL 103.5 FM

Grand Strand

WKZQ 101.7 FM

WSYN 106.5 FM

Florence

WJMX 103.3 FM

WYNN 106.3 FM

Upstate

WFBC 93.7 FM

WESC 92.5 FM

Aiken/Augusta

WBBQ 104.3 FM

WRDW-TV Channel 12 (CBS)

Orangeburg/Sumter

WHLZ 92.5 FM

WTCB 106.7 FM

Columbia

WCOS 97.5 FM

WTCB 106.7 FM

WLTR 91.3 FM (public-radio)

S.C. Educational Radio Network

WLTR 91.3 FM (Columbia)

WSCI 89.3 FM (Charleston)

WRJA 88.1 FM

(Sumter/Columbia)

WNSC 88.9 FM (Rock Hill)

WJWJ 89.9 FM

(Beaufort/Hilton Head)

WEPR 90.1 FM

(Greenville/Spartanburg)

WHMC 90.1 FM

(Conway/Myrtle Beach)

WLJK 89.1 FM (Aiken)

Web Sites

S.C. Emergency Management Division: www.scemd.org

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.bt.cdc.gov

U.S. Department of Energy: www.energy.gov

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: www.hhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov

Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov/swercepp